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JUL 16 2007

Appl. No.: 10/565,690

Amdt. Dated July 16, 2007

Response to Final Office Action Mailed April 23, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A single use, sealable package that is adapted, when sealed, to resist leakage of contents when subjected to a raised internal pressure over a range of temperatures so as to meet pertinent international and federal standards for shipping hazardous substances or products contained therein by commercial air transport, the package comprising:

a flexible, air-impervious envelope having an outer wall ~~(2)~~, wherein

portions of said outer wall forming a slot ~~(5)~~ through said outer wall and also forming first and second lips ~~(9, 23)~~ on said outer wall adjacent said slot, the slot having a length, and

an adhesive strip ~~(10)~~ positioned selectively to close the slot in the ~~envelope~~ said outer wall along the entire length of said slot with a double seal formed along the outer wall of the envelope, wherein the adhesive strip ~~(10)~~ comprises two parallel adhesive faces, and wherein

a first of said parallel adhesive faces ~~(16, 21)~~ is completely covered with a first, detachable protective strip ~~(17)~~ prior to closing the slot, wherein

a second of said parallel adhesive faces comprises a first zone ~~(12)~~ that is fixed to the outer wall ~~(2)~~ of the envelope along ~~a~~ and beyond the entire length of said first lip ~~(9)~~ of said slot ~~(5)~~, and a second zone ~~(14)~~ that extends adjacent and beyond the slot and said second lip ~~(23)~~ of the slot and along the entire length of said slot, and

said second zone of the second face of the adhesive strip is covered with a second detachable protective strip ~~(15)~~ prior to closing the slot,

whereby the slot is adapted to be doubly sealed along its entire length on the outer wall of the envelope by, first, the first face of the adhesive strip and also, second, by the second face of the adhesive strip bonding to the outer wall of the envelope adjacent and beyond the end of the first face of the adhesive strip, when the package is filled, closed and sealed, and shipped.

2. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 1, wherein ~~a~~ the outer wall the wall ~~(2)~~ of the envelope ~~(30)~~ has a further portion extending beyond ~~(4)~~ the second lip ~~(23)~~ of the slot ~~(5)~~, for a distance at least equal to a length of the second zone ~~(14)~~ of the second face of the self-adhesive strip ~~(10)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 2, wherein a length of the second zone ~~(14)~~ of the second face of the adhesive strip ~~(10)~~ is at least equal to a length of the first zone ~~(12)~~ of the second face of the adhesive strip.

4. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 1, wherein the slot ~~(5)~~ is rectilinear.

5. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 4, wherein the slot ~~(5)~~ is arranged close to a rectilinear edge ~~(31)~~ of the envelope ~~(30)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 1, wherein the envelope ~~(30)~~ is divided into a plurality of distinct pockets ~~(27)~~, each of said distinct pockets communicating with a respective portion of the slot ~~(5)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 1, wherein the envelope ~~(30)~~ comprises at least one sheet ~~(2, 6)~~ comprising an outer layer of oriented polyamide, ~~laminated with and~~ an inner, polyethylene layer ~~(30)~~ laminated to said outer layer.

8. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive strip ~~(10)~~ comprises at least one sheet ~~(13, 20)~~ of synthetic olefin polymer, covered on two sides with a rubber based adhesive ~~(12, 14, 16, 21)~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for airtight packing of a product, comprising the steps of:

- providing a package according to claim 1;
 - inserting the product ~~(28)~~ into the envelope ~~(30)~~, through the slot ~~(5)~~;
 - removing the first protective strip ~~(15)~~ covering the second zone ~~(14)~~ of the adhesive strip ~~(10)~~, and sealing said second zone on the second lip ~~(23)~~ of the slot and onto the outer wall ~~(4)~~ of the envelope;
 - removing the second protective strip ~~(17)~~ from the first face ~~(16)~~ of the adhesive strip;
- and
- folding the envelope back on itself along the slot, so that the stripped face of the adhesive strip is folded back on itself.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for airtight packing of a product according to claim 9, wherein a relative pressure of at least 0.95 bar and a temperature in the range of -40 °C

to 55 °C ~~may exist~~ inside said package after packing without losing product outside the envelope.

11. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 2, wherein the slot ~~(5)~~ is rectilinear.

12. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 3, wherein the slot ~~(5)~~ is rectilinear.

13. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 2, wherein the envelope ~~(30)~~ is divided into a plurality of distinct pockets ~~(27)~~, each communicating with a respective portion of the slot ~~(5)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 3, wherein the envelope ~~(30)~~ is divided into a plurality of distinct pockets ~~(27)~~, each communicating with a respective portion of the slot ~~(5)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 4, wherein the envelope ~~(30)~~ is divided into a plurality of distinct pockets ~~(27)~~, each communicating with a respective portion of the slot ~~(5)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 2, wherein the envelope ~~(30)~~ comprises at least one ~~outer sheet (2, 6)~~ comprising an outer layer of oriented polyamide, and an inner, polyethylene layer laminated to said outer layer.

17. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 3, wherein the envelope ~~(30)~~ comprises at least one ~~outer sheet (2, 6)~~ comprising an outer layer of oriented polyamide, and an inner, polyethylene layer laminated to said outer layer.

18. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 4, wherein the envelope ~~(30)~~ comprises at least one ~~outer sheet (2, 6)~~ comprising an outer layer of oriented polyamide, and an inner, polyethylene layer laminated to said outer layer.

19. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 2, wherein the adhesive strip ~~(10)~~ comprises at least one sheet ~~(13, 20)~~ of synthetic olefin polymer, covered ~~coated~~ on two sides with a rubber based adhesive ~~(12, 14, 16, 21)~~.

20. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 3, wherein the adhesive strip ~~(10)~~ comprises at least one sheet ~~(13, 20)~~ of synthetic olefin polymer, covered ~~coated~~ on two sides with a rubber based adhesive ~~(12, 14, 16, 21)~~.